ABSTRACT

A residential access node (RAN) running a RAN platform
5 **112** which includes means for interfacing a plurality of
peripheral equipment such as analog (POTS) phones **114**,
standard televisions **116**, computers **118**, IP telephones **120**,
and high definition televisions **122** to a packet data
network **100**. The Network Access Provider RAN platform **124**
10 manages sessions among Customer Premises RAN platforms **112**
and Application Service Provider RAN platforms **110** over
high bandwidth connections. The Customer Premises RAN
platform **112** also determines the number and type of data
packets entering or departing via the packet data network
15 **100**. Such an architecture allows for the efficient
transfer of services (data content) from Application
Service Providers to individual network access subscribers
by seamlessly accommodating various data types and
providing an integrated metering and billing mechanism
20 managed by the Network Access Provider.

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